

Introduction to Modeling and the Control Design Process

Dr. Oishi

Electrical and Computer Engineering
University of British Columbia, BC

<http://courses.ece.ubc.ca/360>
eece360.ubc@gmail.com

Chapters 1.1-1.10, 2.1-2.3



The Control Design Process

- Today:
 - Brief history
 - The principle of feedback (*review*)
 - Practical issues: sensors and actuators
 - Linear Systems and Linearization
 - Modeling physical systems with differential equations



Brief History

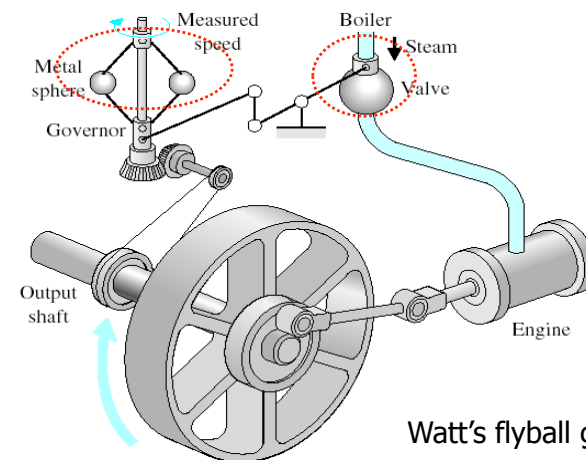
- Ancient Egypt, Greece, and China, float regulator used in waterclocks
- Watts' flyball governor (1769); Maxwell's model (1868)
- "Classical" control (1940s)
- "Modern" control (1970s)
- Robust, Nonlinear, Optimal, H_∞ , Discrete, Hybrid, Embedded...



Apollo 11 lunar module,
www.nasa.gov



Brief History



Watt's flyball governor



Feedback

- Compare actual behavior with desired behavior
- Take corrective action based on the difference
- Deceivingly simple idea, but very powerful concept
- Feedback is a key idea in control



Open-Loop Control

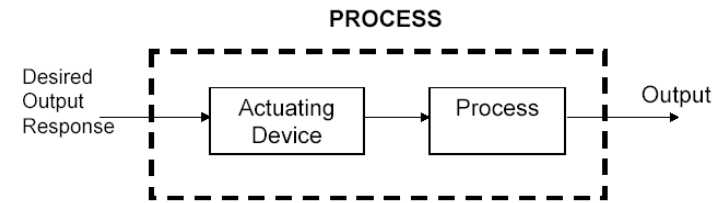


Figure 1.2 Open-loop Control System (without feedback)

An open-loop control system uses an actuating device to control the process directly.



Closed-Loop Control

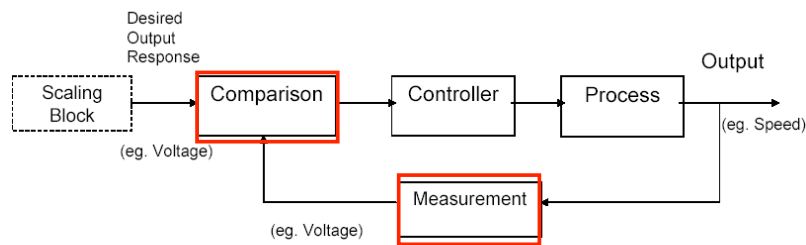


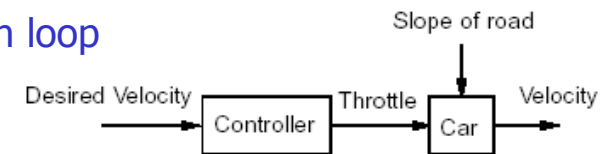
Figure 1.3 Closed-loop Control System (with feedback)

Through feedback, a closed-loop control system compares a **measurement** of the actual output with the **desired** output response.

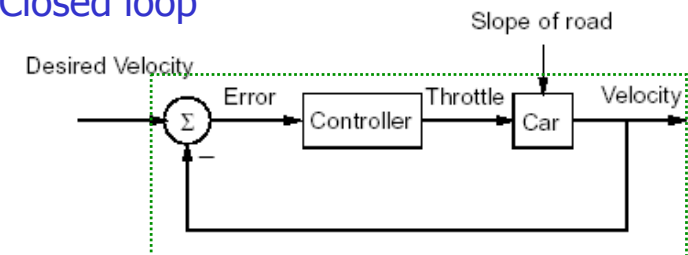


Automobile Cruise Control

- Open loop

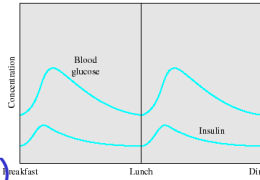


- Closed loop

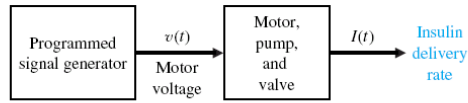




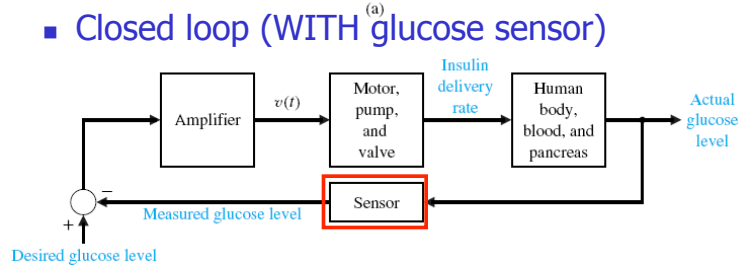
Blood sugar regulation



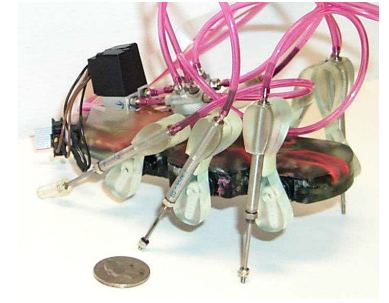
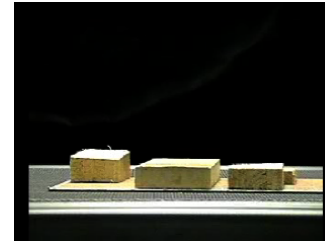
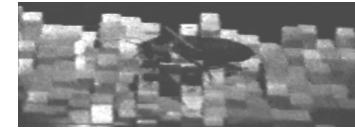
- Open loop (no glucose sensor)



- Closed loop (WITH glucose sensor)

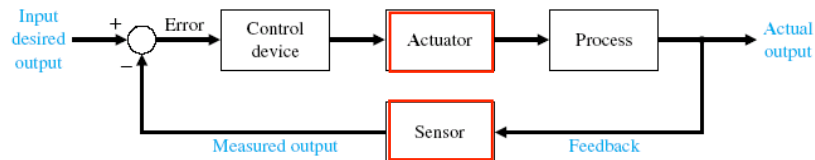


Robotic Hexapod



Feedback

- The **sensor** and the **actuator** are key components of a typical feedback loop



Feedback: Sensors

Sensor Attributes

- Reliability
- Accuracy
- Responsiveness
- Noise immunity
- Linearity
- Non-intrusiveness

Types of Sensors

- Encoder
- Rate gyro
- Accelerometer
- Potentiometer
- Piezo-electrics
- Chemical
- Acoustic
- more...



Feedback: Actuators

- Actuators provide the ability to affect or actuate the process in order to move from its current state to the desired state
- Actuators should be sized appropriately and be as linear as possible
 - Backlash
 - Stiction
 - Hysteresis



Feedback, Sensors, Actuators

- Better Sensors**

Provide better *vision*



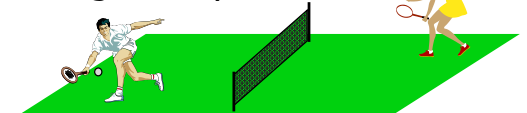
- Better Actuators**

Provide more *muscle*

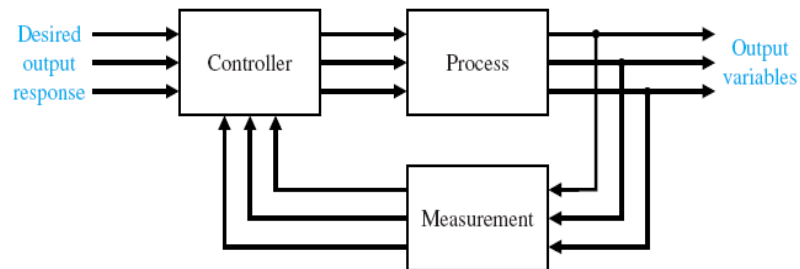


- Better Control**

Provides more finesse by combining *sensors* and *actuators* in more intelligent ways



Multivariable Control (MIMO)



As systems become more complicated, the interrelationship of many controlled variables must be considered.



Common Control Objectives

- Regulation**

- Controlled output is held as close as possible to a **constant setpoint**, despite disturbances and errors
- Examples: Control of basis weight and moisture on paper machine; Automobile cruise control

- Tracking**

- Controlled output follows as closely as possible a **time-varying command**, despite disturbances and errors
- Examples: Aircraft autopilot, radar tracking device



Control Engineering: Linearity

- Feedback theory
- Linear system analysis
 - A function $f(x)$ is **linear** if it fulfills the following two properties:

1. Superposition: $f(x + y) = f(x) + f(y)$
 2. Scaling: $f(ax) = a f(x)$



Control Engineering: Linearity

- Feedback theory
- Linear system analysis
 - Linear systems are much easier to understand and the solutions are generally well-behaved.
 - We can add simple solutions to get more complex ones.
 - Linear systems can tell us about the stability of stationary states.



Linearization of Nonlinear Models

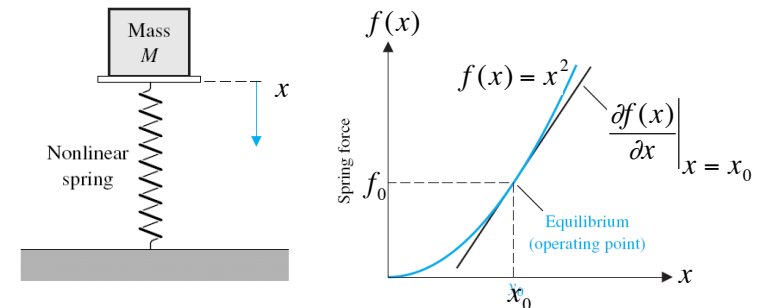
- Although many systems are nonlinear, they can be approximated by linear systems for small deviations around a chosen operating point.
- Note that the derived approximation will be valid only around this operating point.
- Control theory for Linear Time-Invariant (LTI) systems is more complete and much simpler than that for nonlinear systems.



How to Linearize

$$\Delta y = \left. \frac{df(x)}{dx} \right|_{x=x_0} \Delta x$$

- Identify an operating point
- Perform Taylor series expansion and keep only constant and 1st derivative terms





How to Linearize

- Identify an operating point
- Perform Taylor series expansion and keep only constant and 1st derivative terms
- For a nonlinear function $y = f(x)$ linearized around x_0

$$y = f(x_0) + \underbrace{\frac{\partial f(x_0)}{\partial x} \Big|_{x=x_0}}_{\text{H.O.T.}} (x - x_0) + \frac{\partial^2 f(x_0)}{\partial x^2} \Big|_{x=x_0} \frac{(x - x_0)^2}{2!} + \dots$$

$$\tilde{y} = f(x) \Big|_{x=x_0} + (x - x_0) \frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x} \Big|_{x=x_0}$$

$$\Delta y = \frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x} \Big|_{x=x_0} \Delta x$$



How to Linearize

- For a nonlinear function $y = f(x)$ linearized around x_0

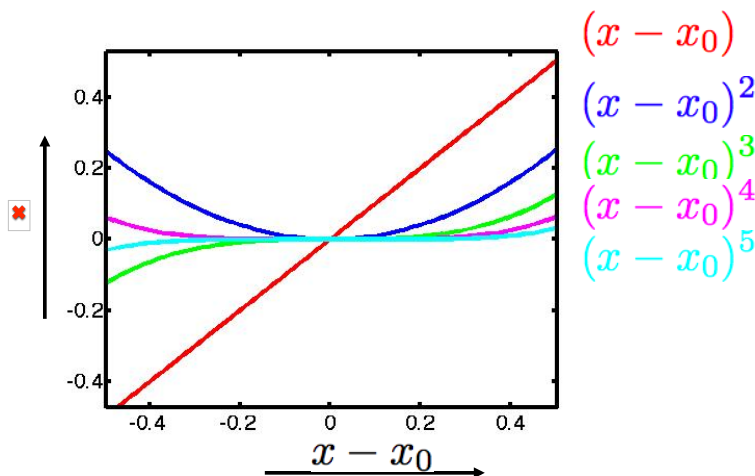
$$y = f(x) \Big|_{x=x_0} + (x - x_0) \frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x} \Big|_{x=x_0} + \frac{(x - x_0)^2}{2!} \frac{\partial^2 f(x)}{\partial x^2} \Big|_{x=x_0} + \frac{(x - x_0)^3}{3!} \frac{\partial^3 f(x)}{\partial x^3} \Big|_{x=x_0} + \dots$$

$$= a_0 + (x - x_0) a_1 + \underbrace{(x - x_0)^2 a_2}_{\text{very small}} + \underbrace{(x - x_0)^3 a_3}_{\text{very, very small}} + \underbrace{(x - x_0)^4 a_4}_{\text{even smaller yet}} + \dots$$

(in comparison to the 0th and 1st order terms)



Why Linearization Works



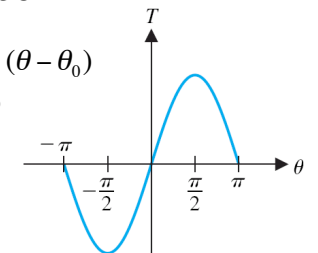
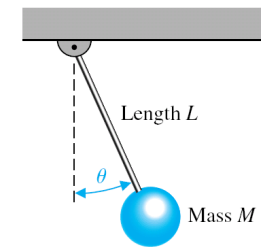
Example of Linearization

- Pendulum oscillator model
 - $T = MgL \sin \theta$
- Equilibrium point ...
 - $\theta_0 = 0, T(\theta_0) = 0$
- Taylor's series approximation

$$T \approx T(\theta_0) + MgL \frac{\partial \sin \theta}{\partial \theta} \Big|_{\theta = \theta_0} (\theta - \theta_0)$$

$$T \approx MgL \theta$$

- (Accurate for small θ)





Control Design Process

1. Identify
 - what you want to control (process)
 - how you can control it (actuators)
 - how you can measure it (sensors)
2. Formulate a mathematical model
3. Linearize around desired operating point, if necessary
4. Design a controller for the linear system
5. Optimize its parameters to meet control objectives



Model Development

- High order models can only be justified where there is little uncertainty
- Control-relevant models are often quite simple compared to the true system and generally combine physical reasoning with experimental data
- Actuators should be included as they often are nonlinear and have their own dynamic behavior



Model Development

- Essential step of the "Design Procedure"
- Three different choices for modeling:
 - **Analysis:** Mathematical models based on first principles, including differential equations.
 - **Grey-Box:** Model is developed and then parameters are inferred from experiments.
 - **Black-Box:** Input-output data is used to infer a dynamic relationship.
- Nonlinear models can be linearized
- *Linear models are most often used in analysis and design*



Examples of Models

- Nonlinear time varying models
- **Linear Time Invariant (LTI) models**
- Continuous time models
- Discretized time models
- **Transfer functions models**
- **State space models**
- Analogies between mechanical, electrical, hydraulic and biological models



Modeling Procedure

- Given a physical system
 - Look up relevant physical laws
 - Define inputs and outputs
 - Formulate the mathematical model; list assumptions
 - Derive equations of motion
 - Establish initial conditions
 - Solve and verify existence of solutions
 - If necessary, re-analyze or re-design the system
- Works well for many mechanical and electrical problems



Important Items

- Role of actuators and sensors in effective feedback
- Definition of linearity
- Linearization through Taylor's Series approximation
- General process for modeling and control